

1-10 (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A micromechanical actuator for a storage device, comprising:

a read/write slider;

a movable member formed as an integral part of the read/write slider; and

an electro-thermal actuator element in contact with the movable member, to effect

relative positioning of the read/write slider,

wherein the movable member further comprises a proximal end and a distal end, the

proximal end integrally attached to the slider body and the distal end free-standing

with respect to the slider body,

and, wherein the movable member further comprises an integral, elongated portion of the

slider body defined at the distal end by a leading edge of the slider body, defined

at a top end by the top of the slide body, defined at a bottom by a trench having

the shape of a curved plane extending laterally through the slider body and

extending from a first side member to a second side, the movable member

attached at the proximal end to the slider body.

12 – 16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The micromechanical actuator of claim ~~16~~ 11, further comprising a hole disposed substantially at the proximal end of the movable member, the hole defining a narrow neck in the rear of the movable member.

18-24 (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) A micromechanical actuator for a storage device, comprising:  
a read/write slider;  
a movable member formed as an integral part of the read/write slider; and  
an electro-thermal actuator element in contact with the movable member, to effect  
relative positioning of the read/write slider,  
wherein the movable member further comprises a proximal end and a distal end, the  
proximal end integrally attached to the slider body and the distal end free-standing  
with respect to the slider body and  
wherein the movable member further comprises a lithographically defined tongue-shaped  
region etched out of a face of a body of the read/write slider.

26. (Previously presented) The micromechanical actuator of claim 25, wherein the movable member further comprises an integral, elongated portion of the slider body defined at the distal end by a leading edge of the slider body, defined at a top end by the top of the slide body, defined at a bottom by a trench having the shape of a curved plane extending laterally through the slider body and extending from a first side member to a second side, the movable member attached at the proximal end to the slider body.

27. (Previously presented) The micromechanical actuator of claim 26, further comprising a hole disposed substantially at the proximal end of the movable member, the hole defining a narrow neck in the rear of the movable member.

28. (Previously presented) The micromechanical actuator of claim 25, wherein the electro-thermal actuator element further comprises an electro-thermal heater element placed substantially on the movable member.

29. (Previously presented) The micromechanical actuator of claim 28, wherein the electro-thermal heater element comprises first and second leads extending in two substantially parallel directions on the movable member, the first lead extending along a first side of the movable member and the second lead extending along a second side of the movable member, the first lead.

30. (New) A micromechanical actuator for a storage device, comprising:

a read/write slider;

a movable member formed as an integral part of the read/write slider; and

an electro-thermal actuator element in contact with the movable member, to effect

relative positioning of the read/write slider,

wherein the electro-thermal actuator element further comprises an electro-thermal heater

element placed substantially on the movable member, and

wherein the electro-thermal heater element comprises first and second leads extending in

two substantially parallel directions on the movable member, the first lead

extending along a first side of the movable member and the second lead extending

along a second side of the movable member, the first lead.